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5-23-1882

Message from the President of the United States, transmitting a communication from the Secretary of the Interior relative to the consolidation of the Mescalero and Jicarilla agencies and the civilization of the Indians thereat

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Recommended Citation

H.R. Exec. Doc. No. 207, 47th Cong., 1st Sess. (1882)

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APACHES AT THE MESCALERO AND JICARILLA AGENCIES.

MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

A communication from the Secretary of the Interior relative to the consolidation of the Mescalero and Jicarilla Agencies and the civilization of the Indians thereat.

MAY 23, 1882.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I transmit herewith a communication from the Secretary of the Interior, dated 18th instant, and accompanying report from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, relative to the necessity for buildings at the Mescalero Agency, New Mexico, and for an appropriation for the support, civilization, &c., of the Apaches at the Mescalero and Jicarilla Agencies, together with an estimate for the same, in the form of a proposed clause for insertion in the sundry civil bill now pending for consideration in committee.

The subject is presented for the consideration of Congress.

CHESTER A. ARTHUR..

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
May 22, 1882.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, May 18, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to invite attention to the fact that the act which recently passed Congress, "making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department; &c., for the year ending June 30, 1883, and for other purposes," provides for the consolidation of the Mescalero and Jicarilla Agencies, in New Mexico, and "for the removal, with their consent, of the Mescalero Apache Indians to the Jicarilla Reservation," appropriating \$15,000 for the support of the consolidated agency, including pay of employes, providing that if said consent shall not be given, then \$10,000 of this sum may be expended for the support, civilization, and instruction of said Indians at their present agencies in equal proportions at each agency.

The amount appropriated for the consolidated agency, or for the two agencies, provided the removal is not made, is wholly inadequate for the support of these Indians, numbering in all about sixteen hundred, with no other means of support except what is appropriated by Congress therefor, to say nothing of the expense for employes for the reservation.

I am satisfied that it is not safe to attempt to remove the Indians from the Mescalero Agency at this time, and any movement looking to such removal would involve us in an Indian war.

In view of the foregoing facts, I respectfully suggest that Congress be asked to provide by appropriate legislation sufficient funds for the adequate support of the Indians at the Mescalero and Jicarilla Agencies, and that the moneys appropriated for the support of the Mescalero Indians be expended for their benefit at the Mescalero Agency, and not at the Jicarilla Agency.

To this end, I have the honor to invite attention to the inclosed letter from the Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs, of the 17th instant, with accompanying estimate, in the form of a proposed clause for insertion in the sundry civil bill now pending for consideration in committee, to provide for the amount required for the erection of buildings at the Mescalero Agency, New Mexico, and also for the support, civilization, and instruction of the Apaches at Mescalero and Jicarilla Agencies, including pay of employes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

The PRESIDENT.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, May 17, 1882.

SIR: The department having approved the recommendation of Inspector Howard, that the Mescalero Indians be not removed from their present reservation, it becomes necessary either to erect buildings for agent's residence, office, and employes' quarters, storehouse, &c., at said agency, or to purchase such as have been erected by private parties. In order to enable the department to do so, I have the honor to inclose herewith estimate of the amount necessary for that purpose, together with an estimate of the amount required for the support, civilization, and instruction of the Apaches at the Mescalero and Jicarilla Agency. Until now an appropriation under the title "Support of Apaches of Arizona and New Mexico" has enabled this office to take care of these Indians in connection with those at San Carlos, but the appropriation act for the fiscal year 1883 makes separate provisions for the support, &c., of the Apaches at San Carlos Agency, and appropriates for the removal of Mescalero Apaches to the Jicarilla Reservation, and for the support, civilization, and instruction of the Indians of said reservation, including pay of employes, \$15,000, and if the Mescaleros are not removed, then \$10,000 of the amount may be expended for the support, &c., of said Indians at their present agencies in equal proportions at each agency. This amount (\$10,000) is entirely inadequate, and not even sufficient to pay the employes necessary at two separate reservations, and at least \$75,000 should be appropriated. These Indians number about 1,600, and they as well as those at San Carlos have

no means of support, except what is appropriated by Congress. There are at San Carlos about 4,600 Apaches, for whose care and support Congress has appropriated \$275,000 for the fiscal year 1883, and the amount estimated for (\$75,000) for the 1,600 Apaches at Jicarilla and Mescalero is not as much in proportion.

I respectfully recommend that a copy of this letter, together with a copy of the estimate herewith inclosed, be transmitted to the Appropriation Committees of the House and Senate, with a request that an amendment making the necessary appropriation be attached to the sundry civil bill now pending for consideration in committee.

Very respectfully,

E. L. STEVENS,
Acting Commissioner.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

Estimate of amount required for the erection of buildings at the Mescalero Agency, N. Mex., and also for the support, civilization, and instruction of the Apaches at Mescalero and Jicarilla Agencies, including pay of employés, for the fiscal year 1883:

For this amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary to enable the Secretary of the Interior to have buildings erected for use of agent and employés and for storehouses at the Mescalero Agency, N. Mex., or for purchase of such buildings as have already been erected and are now owned by private parties.....	\$15,000 00
For this amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the support, civilization, and instruction of the Apaches and other Indians at the Mescalero and Jicarilla Agencies, including pay of employés	75,000 00
	<hr/> 90,000 00